



# **Sustaining America's Strength for Innovation:**

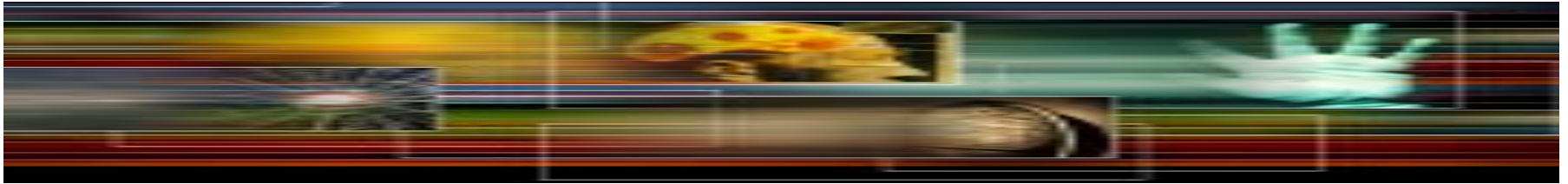
*What's the Role for Our Federal Labs?*

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Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce*



# Growing Importance of Innovation Strength – The Big Picture

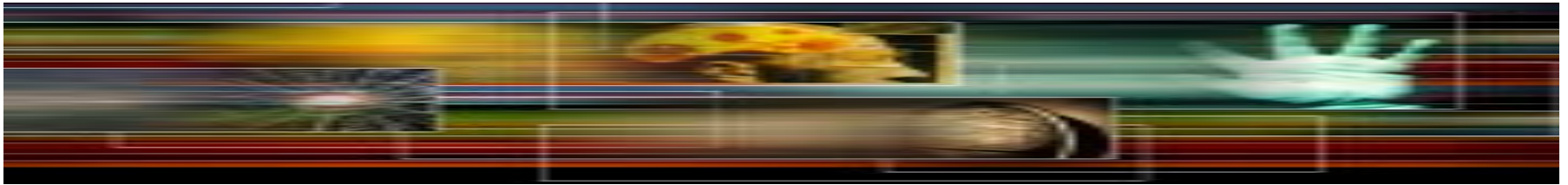


- ***U.S. economy and technology sectors now enjoy an advantageous position***
- ***Thanks to the success and hard work of our scientists, technologists, and entrepreneurs!***
- ***Federal contribution to the national R&D enterprise has been critical***
- ***But with changes ongoing abroad, we are going to have to work to sustain our leadership***



# Sustaining America's Strength for Innovation

## *Main Topics for Remarks*

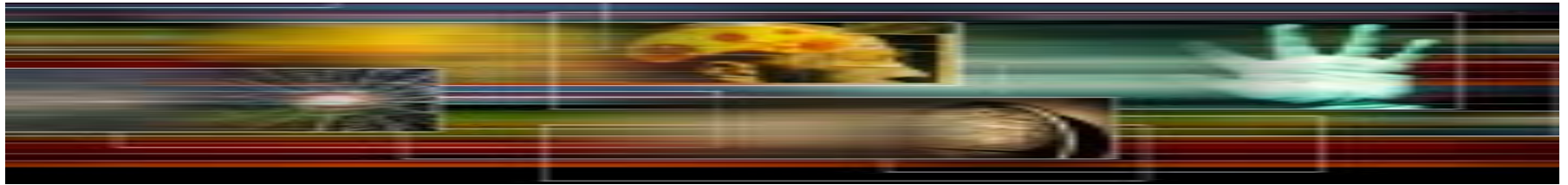


- ***The changing wealth of nations – innovation as the engine***
- ***The Good News / Bad News for US competitiveness***
- ***Role of the federal labs and technology transfer***
- ***Present OTP activities concerning the federal labs***





# Technological Progress is on an Exponential Growth Path



- Human knowledge now doubles every 10 years
- More scientific knowledge created in past decade than in all human history
- Computer power doubling every 18 months
- Internet doubling every year
- Number of DNA sequences we can analyze doubling every two years

*Michio Kaku - Visions*



# Why Knowledge is King

## *The Out-Sized Impacts of Technology Industries*

### IMPACT OF IT

- Only 7% of all businesses!
- 28% GDP growth
- 2x new job growth
- 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s of new productivity growth

### IMPACT OF LIFE SCIENCES

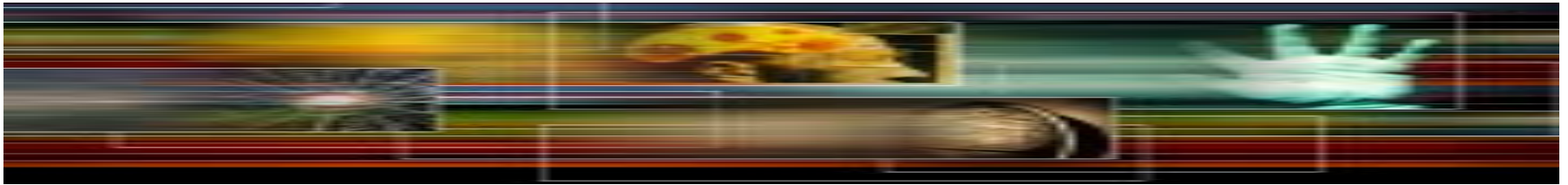
- Better life expectancies: ~ \$2.4 trillion in annual net gains
  - Equiv. to all other goods and services *combined*
- Source: Department of Commerce, Economics & Statistics Administration, Digital Economy 2002*





# **Why Knowledge is King**

## ***Emerging Technologies' Impact Likely Even Greater***



- ***Nanotechnology***
- ***Ongoing advances in biomed/biotech***
- ***New computing technologies***
- ***New energy supply/end-use systems***
- ***Advanced materials***
- ***..... and more***



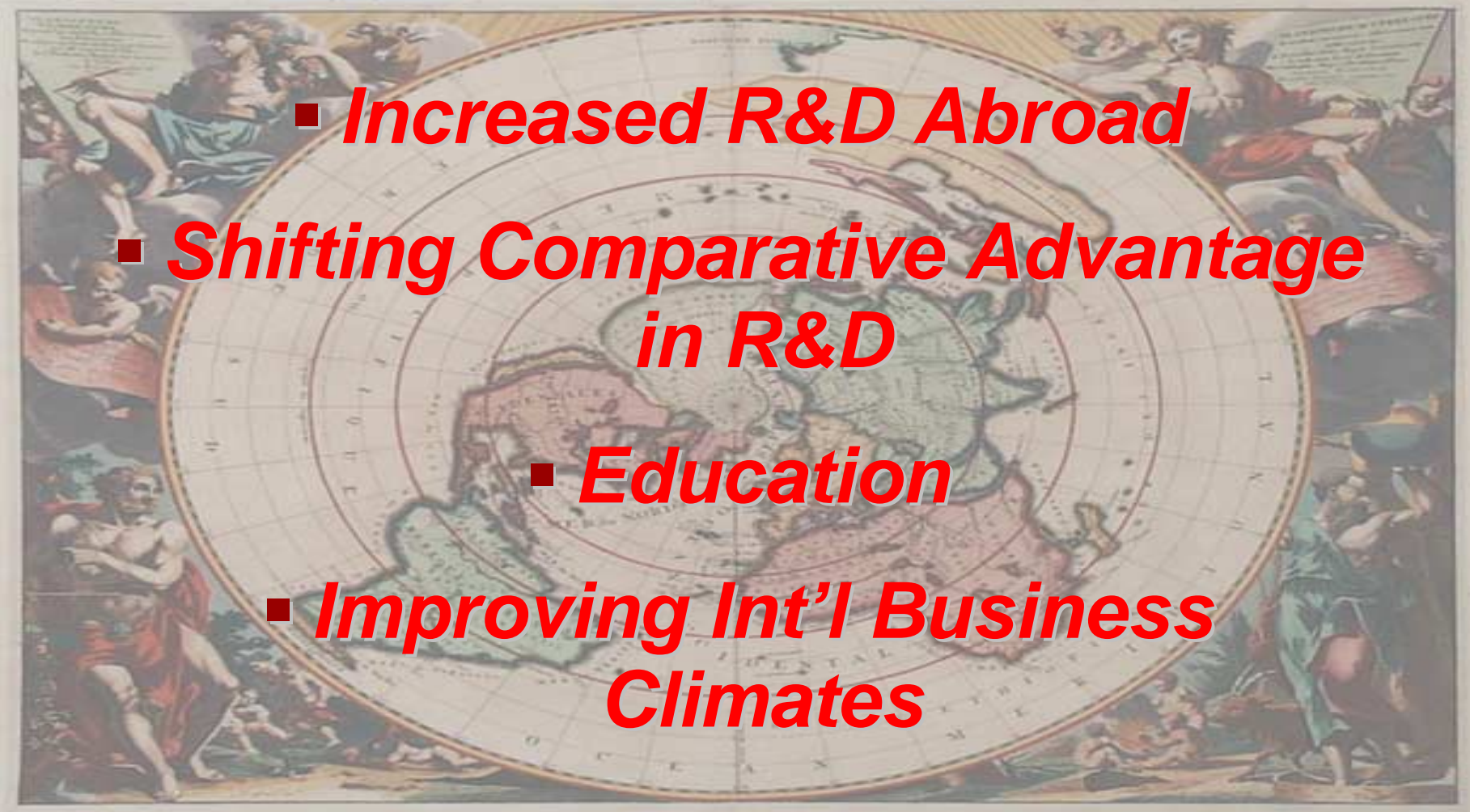


# US Global Competitiveness in the Information Age: The Good News

- *Most Patents Per Capita*
- *Most Research & Development*
- *Leading producer globally of high-tech products*
- *More Research-Intensive Workforce*
- *More Scientific Publications*
- *Most Attractive Universities & Business Climate*



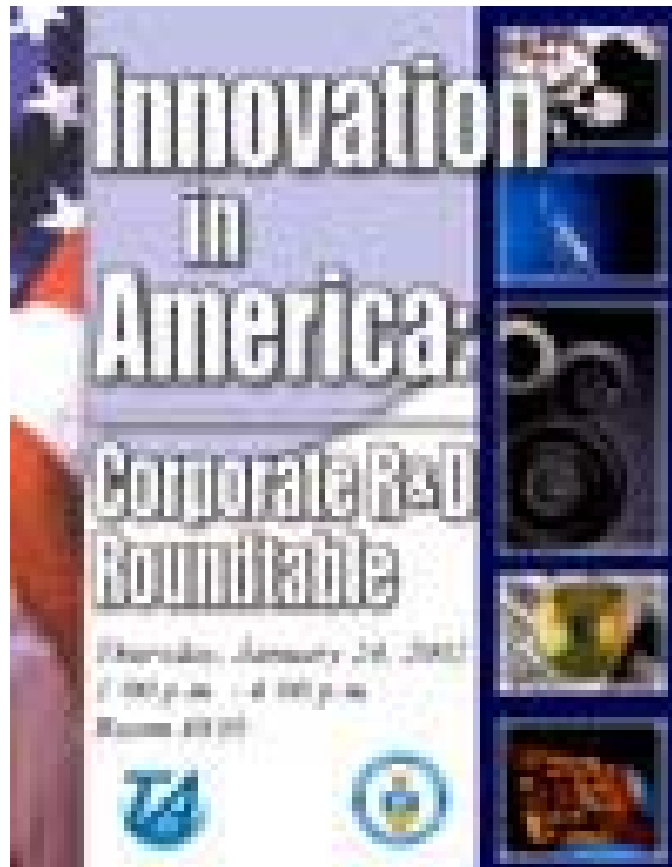
# US Global Competitiveness in the Information Age: Challenges

- 
- A large, circular world map is the central focus of the slide. The map is rendered in a classical style, with continents in various shades of green and brown. Surrounding the map are several classical figures, likely representing different regions or aspects of global trade and commerce. The figures are depicted in dynamic poses, some holding objects that might represent trade goods or tools. The overall composition is framed by a decorative border.
- *Increased R&D Abroad*
  - *Shifting Comparative Advantage in R&D*
  - *Education*
  - *Improving Int'l Business Climates*





# Technology Administration 2002 Roundtables on the U.S. Innovation System



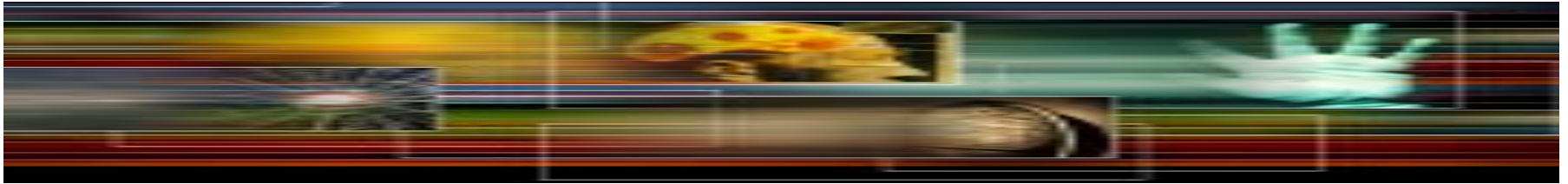
- **Corporate R&D Roundtable** (*January 24, 2002*)
- **Federal Lab R&D Roundtable** (*April 2, 2002*)
- **University R&D Roundtable** (*June 11, 2002*)

(transcripts: [www.ta.doc.gov](http://www.ta.doc.gov))



# **Sustaining Our Innovation Leadership**

## *Reasons for Optimism*

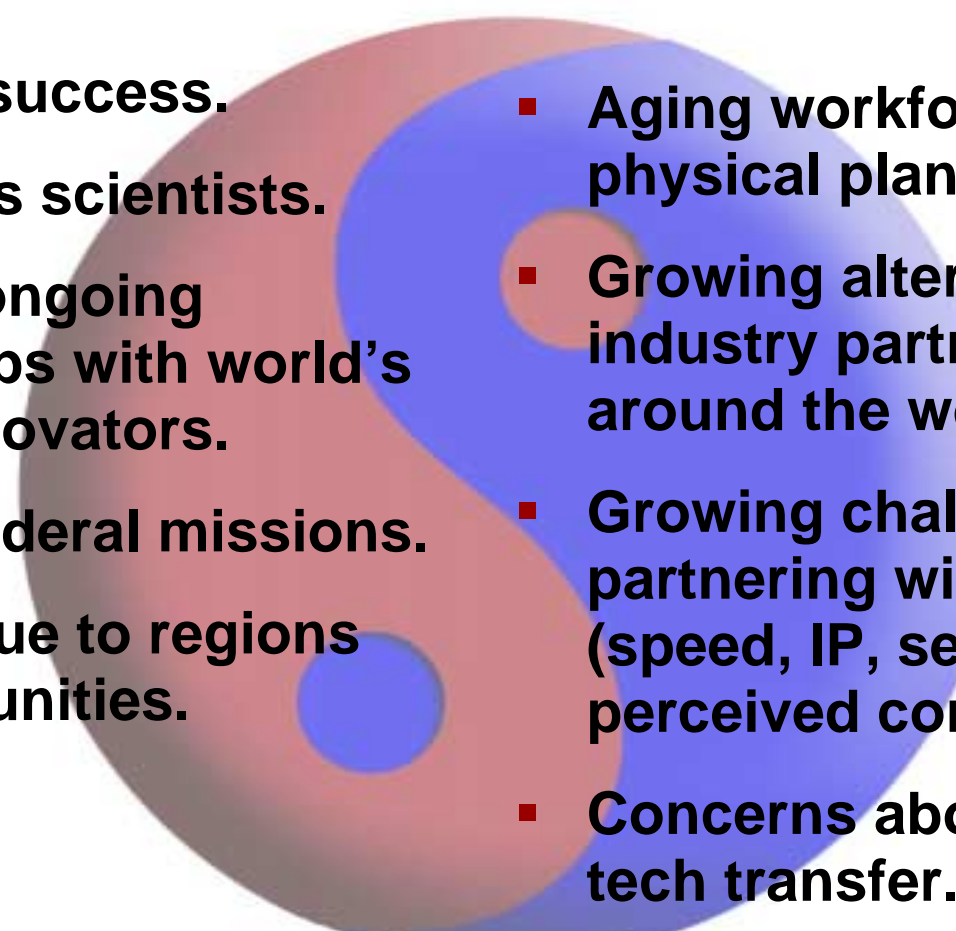


- ***Capable national R&D enterprise and world-class scientists and engineers***
- ***History of achievement***
- ***Sustained federal leadership and support***
- ***Success at the transfer of federally-funded S&T***



# US Global Competitiveness in the Information Age: the Federal Labs

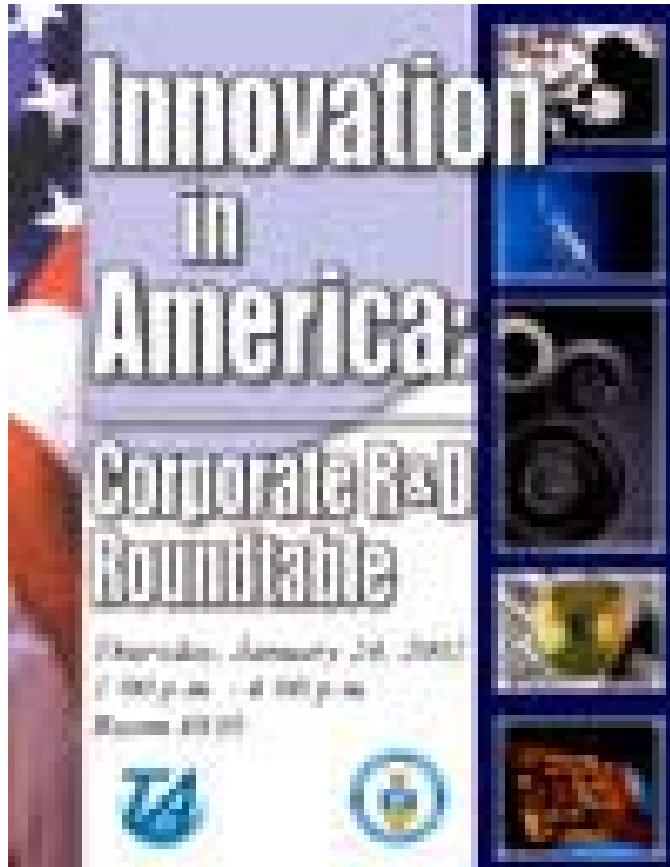
## ARE THE LABS A *GOOD NEWS* OR *BAD NEWS* STORY?

- 
- History of success.
  - World-class scientists.
  - Deep and ongoing relationships with world's leading innovators.
  - Ongoing federal missions.
  - Adding value to regions and communities.
  - Aging workforce and physical plant.
  - Growing alternatives for industry partnerships around the world.
  - Growing challenges in partnering with corporations (speed, IP, security, perceived competitiveness).
  - Concerns about federal lab tech transfer.





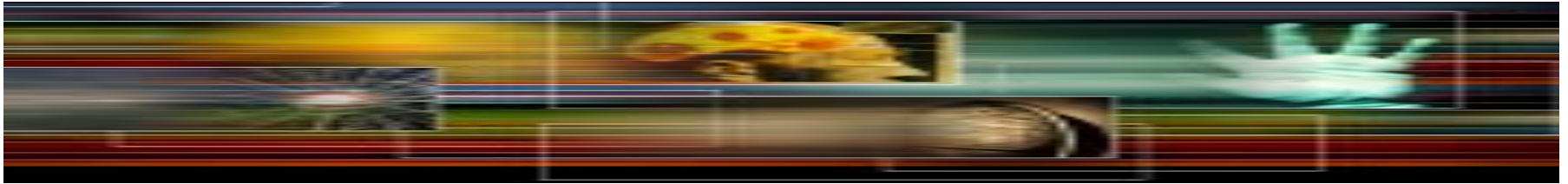
# The Role of Federal Labs -- *The Questions*



- Is tech transfer still valued or valuable?
- Can the labs still be good partners with industry in today's speed-to-market, global world?
- Are labs fully aware-of and maximizing their intellectual assets?
- Do we need to consider fixes or changes to the tech transfer laws and policies?




# Current OTP Activities Related to the Federal Labs



- ***USG Tech Transfer Policy***
- ***InterAgency Working Group on Tech Transfer***
- ***Reporting to the President and Congress on Federal Lab Tech Transfer***
- ***Report on Foreign Participation in Federal Lab Tech Transfer***
- ***Federal Labs and Economic Development***



# Closing Thoughts

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- A large, circular, sepia-toned illustration serves as the background for the text. It depicts a globe with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. Surrounding the globe are several figures in classical attire, including a man in a blue robe on the left, a man in a red robe on the right, and a man in a red robe at the bottom left. They appear to be engaged in a discussion or a presentation of the globe. The illustration is framed by a decorative border.
- **Scientific discovery and tech innovation ever more important for our economic success**
  - **Our continued leadership is anything but assured in the global economy**
  - **The Labs play a vital role in America's innovation system – and we need you to continue to rise to the challenges**
  - **Tech transfer remains an important concept, benefiting our economy and helping labs perform their missions**



*U.S. Department of Commerce*



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